

2008 Livestock Summary

Iowa

Iowa's cattle, hog, and sheep producers received \$7.67 billion from marketings in 2008. This was up from the \$6.87 billion received in 2007. Cattle accounted for \$2.88 billion of the cash receipts in 2008 while hog sales totaled \$4.76 billion and sheep \$30.3 million. This compares to 2007 receipts of \$2.55 billion for cattle, \$4.29 billion for hogs, and \$33.1 million for sheep.

Cattle: Iowa producers had 39.5 million cattle and calves on farms as of January 1, 2009, down 1 percent from January 1, 2008. Cows and heifers that have calved totaled 1.14 million head, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Of this total, 925,000 million head were beef cows, down 4 percent from last year, and 215,000 head were milk cows, unchanged from last year.

Heifers weighing 500 pounds or more, at 870,000 head, were down 9 percent from the previous year. Of this total, 140,000 were beef cow replacements, 130,000 were milk cow replacements, and 600,000 were other heifers.

Steers weighing 500 pounds or more, at 1.39 million head, were up 7 percent from a year ago. An estimated 70,000 bulls weighing 500 pounds or more were on hand, unchanged from last year. Calves weighing 500 pounds or less totaled 480,000 head, down 2 percent from the previous year. The estimated 2008 calf crop for Iowa is 1.07 million head, up 1 percent from a year ago.

Hogs: Iowa continues to rank number one among the states in hog inventory. Hogs and pigs on hand December 1, 2008 totaled 19.9 million, or almost 30 percent of the Nation's hogs.

The state's pork producers farrowed 2.04 million sows from December 2007 through November 2008, up 5 percent from the 1.94 million sows farrowed during the same period a year earlier. The average pigs saved per litter was 9.36, resulting in a pig crop of 19.1 million, up 7 percent from the previous year. Marketings of hogs were 38.8 million head in 2008, up 13 percent from 2007.

Sheep: Sheep numbers on January 1, 2009 in Iowa totaled 200,000 head, down 11 percent from January 1, 2008. An estimated 183,000 lambs were born during 2008, down 6 percent from the previous year. The 195,000 sheep shorn in 2008 produced 1.18 million pounds of wool valued at \$413,000.

Milk Production: Iowa dairy farmers produced an estimated 4.32 billion pounds of milk during 2008, up almost 1 percent from 2007. There was an average of 216,000 milk cows on hand during 2008, up 1 percent from the 213,000 a year earlier. The annual average milk produced per cow was 19,995 pounds, down from the 20,085 pound average in 2007.

Red Meat Production: Slaughter plants in Iowa produced 7.07 billion pounds of red meat (beef, veal, pork, and mutton) during 2008, a 7 percent increase from 2007.

United States

The 2008 gross income from all cattle, hogs, and sheep for the U.S. totaled \$65.2 billion, down 1 percent from 2007. Gross income increased for hogs and pigs, but decreased for cattle, calves, sheep, and lambs. Hogs and pigs gross income increased 9 percent. Cattle and calves gross income decreased 3 percent and sheep and lambs decreased 5 percent.

Total 2008 cash receipts from marketings of meat animals decreased 1 percent to \$64.7 billion. Cattle and calves accounted for 74 percent of this total, hogs and pigs 25 percent, and sheep and lambs 1 percent. Production increased for hogs and pigs, but decreased for cattle, calves, sheep, and lambs. Average prices were up for hogs, pigs, and lambs, while cattle, calf, and sheep prices were down.

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves decreased 3 percent from \$49.8 billion in 2007 to \$48.2 billion in 2008. All cattle and calf marketings totaled 54.2 billion pounds in 2008, down 1 percent from 2007. The U.S.

annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for cattle was \$89.10, a decrease of \$0.80 from 2007. For calves, the annual average price decreased from \$119.00 to \$110.00.

Hogs and Pigs: Cash receipts from hogs and pigs totaled \$16.1 billion during 2008, up 9 percent from 2007. Marketings totaled 32.7 billion pounds in 2008, up 8 percent from 2007. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight increased from \$46.60 in 2007 to \$47.00 in 2008.

Sheep and Lambs: Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2008 were \$451 million, down 5 percent from 2007. Marketings decreased 6 percent to 526 million pounds. The U.S. annual average price per 100 pounds live weight for sheep decreased from \$31.00 in 2007 to \$27.20 in 2008. For lambs, the annual average price increased from \$98.50 to \$99.60 in 2008.